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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Eau Claire Healthy Communities Releases Community Health Improvement Plan

Eau Claire- December 11th. Eau Claire Healthy Communities released its Community Health Improvement Plan this week—the culmination of a collaborative effort by a diverse coalition of residents, community organizations, schools, health care providers, businesses, faith communities and government agencies. The Eau Claire County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) aims to mobilize residents, organizations, and stakeholders to work together to prevent health issues. The CHIP outlines action that will lead to positive change in the three health focus areas that were prioritized by more than 100 community partners this spring.

- Chronic Disease Prevention
- High-Risk Alcohol Use
- Mental Health

The three identified health priorities of Eau Claire County have a significant impact on the health of our community.

- In 2012, 28% of Eau Claire County adults were obese (having a Body Mass Index of ≥ 30). Obesity in particular is a major driver of multiple chronic disease outcomes.
- Approximately 75% of people in Eau Claire County with mental health conditions receive no treatment for their mental illness.
- The economic cost of binge drinking in Eau Claire County is \$160.4 million per year, a cost of \$1,624 to each resident.

"These are very complex health issues in our community, but we are committed to joining forces around these important health concerns," said Jan Porath, co-chair of Healthy Communities. "This community health improvement plan will be one of the tools that we use to make our community a healthier, safer place to live."

To learn more about Healthy Communities or to download a copy of the [Community Health Improvement Plan](#), please visit the [Healthy Communities](#) website.

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